

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant responds herein to the Office Action dated January 25, 2006. A Petition for Extension of Time (one month) and the fee therefor are enclosed.

The title of the invention has been changed in accordance with the suggestion of the Examiner.

The disclosure was objected to for various informalities. Reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested. The disclosure has been amended in accordance with the suggestions of the Examiner.

Claims 10, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 11, and 12 have been amended to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhou (US2003/0003973), in view of Cannon (WO 94/17502). Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to provide for,

“[a] power supply control method in a portable communication device provided with a plurality of controllers including a main controller and a sub controller for controlling external communication, comprising the steps of:

- a) checking whether the sub controller is controlling the external communication; and
- b) when the external communication has not been controlled for a predetermined time-out period, powering off the sub controller.”

Independent claim 6 has been amended to provide for,

“[a] power supply control system in a portable communication device provided with a plurality of controllers including a main controller and a sub controller for controlling external communication, comprising:

- operation check means for checking whether the sub controller is controlling the external communication; and

power control means controlling power supply of the sub controller such that the sub controller is powered off when the external communication has not been controlled for a predetermined time-out period.”

Independent claim 9 has been amended to provide, in part, for,

“[a] portable communication device comprising:...

wherein the main CPU implements:

operation check means for checking whether the sub controller is controlling the external communication; and

power control means controlling power supply of the sub controller such that the sub controller is powered off when the external communication has not been controlled for a predetermined time-out period,

wherein the sub controller implements:

response means for sending the operation check response back to the main controller when the external communication is being controlled.”

Independent Claim 10 has been amended to provide for,

“[a] computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program instructing a computer to implement a power supply control method in a portable communication device provided with a plurality of controllers including a main controller and a sub controller for controlling external communication, the program comprising the steps of:

- a) checking whether the sub controller is controlling the external communication; and
- b) when the external communication has not been controlled for a predetermined time-out period, powering off the sub controller.

Antecedent basis for the amendments to the independent claims is found in the specification, for example, on page 9, line 13 to page 10, line 10.

The amendments to the independent claims clarify that the sub controller is controlling external communications, not performing external communications. The independent claims provide that if external communication is not controlled for a predetermined time-out period, the sub controller is powered off.

In contrast, neither Zhou nor Cannon teach, disclose, or suggest such a concept. Specifically, in Zhou, a cellular radio device 3 is turned on when a message is received, (Abstract; Fig. 2), and the cellular radio device is communicating, and not controlling communication. The Examiner explicitly attempts to equate the cellular radio device with the

sub controller in his analysis of independent claims 1 and 6, (Office Action, page 3, paragraph 6, line 6; page 5, line 3). However, as previously pointed out, the cellular radio device actually communicates, whereas the sub controller, as claimed, only controls communication. Cannon does not differ in that the radio communication device (101) elevates its operation to a full function mode in response to a need to communicate with a computing device (103), (Abstract). There is no teaching, disclosure, or suggestion in Cannon of a device which only controls external communication, which is powered off, based on the expiration of a time-out period during which no control of external communication occurs, as claimed in the independent claims herein.

Since claims 2-5, 7-8, and 11-12 are directly or indirectly dependent upon one of independent claims 1, 6, and 10, they are allowable over Zhou and Cannon for the same reasons recited above with respect to the allowability of independent claims 1, 6, and 10 over Zhou et al. and Cannon.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, allowance of claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims as amended and pass this case to issue.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 16, 2006:

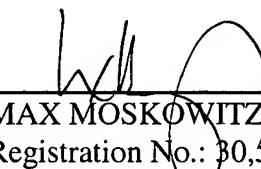
Max Moskowitz

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature
May 16, 2006

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


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